

OC Labor Market Resources & Cost of Living

***Presented by:
OC Center of Excellence***



**CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE
FOR LABOR MARKET RESEARCH**

**ORANGE
COUNTY
REGIONAL
CONSORTIUM**

**WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE**

***Spring '24 CTE & Business Division Mtg
Golden West College
February 09, 2024***

Future **BUILT**

The COE & OC COE

The [Centers of Excellence for Labor Market Research](#) (COE) are the #1 source for labor market information for the California Community Colleges.

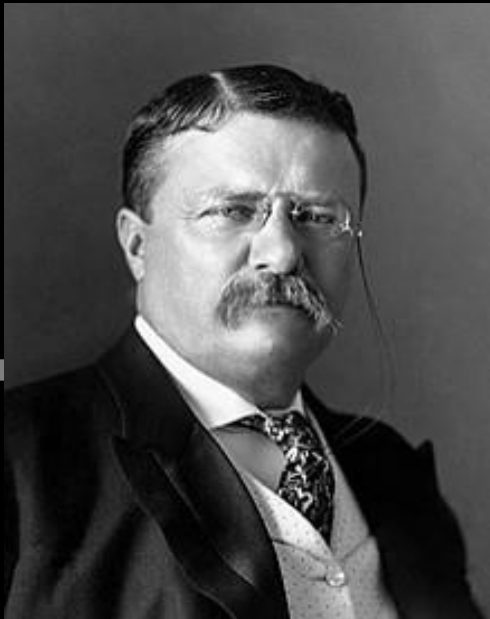
The [Orange County COE](#) (OC COE) is hosted at Rancho Santiago Community College District and serves OC's 9 community colleges and 1 noncredit institution.



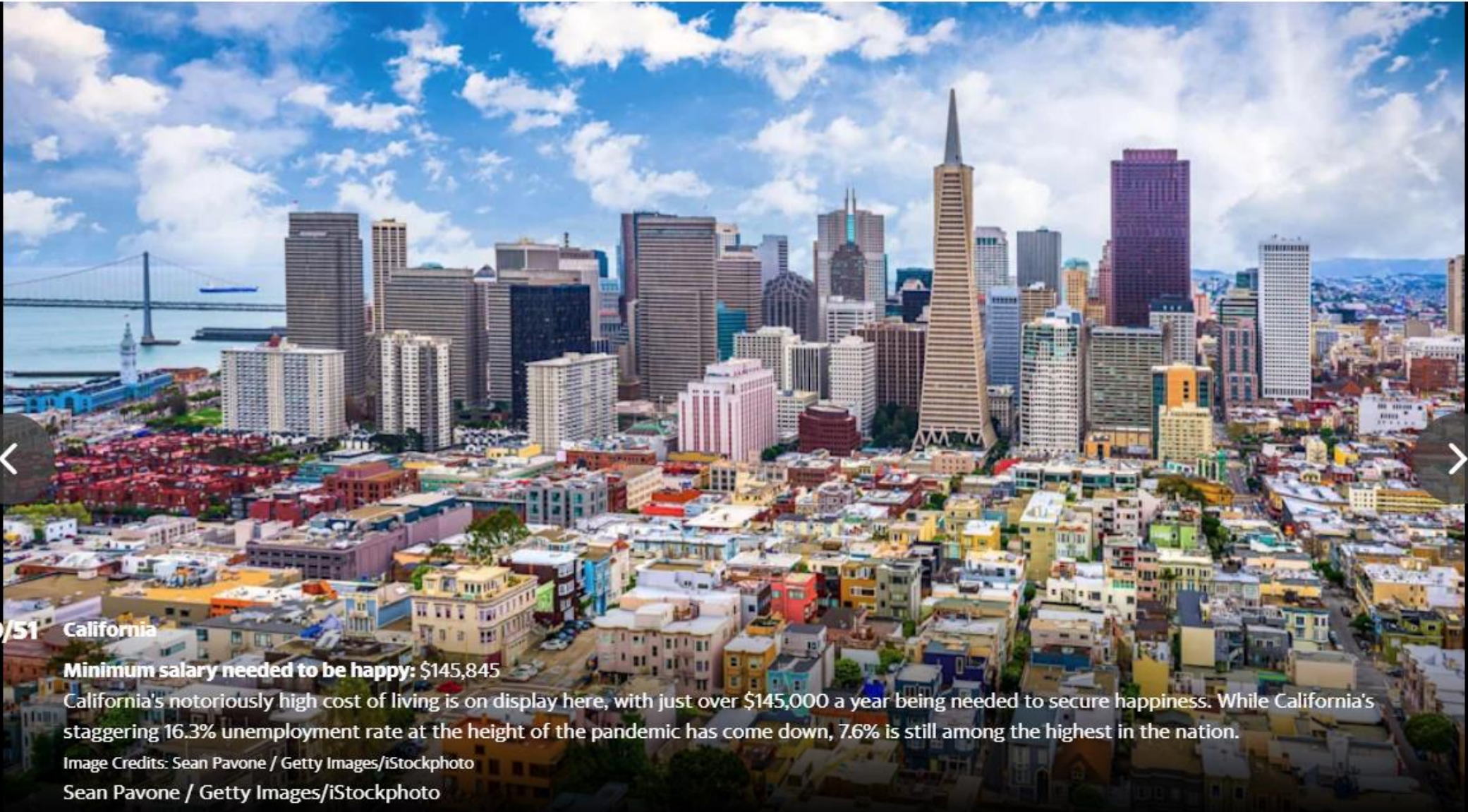
“We stand for a living wage. *Wages are subnormal if they fail to provide a living for those who devote their time and energy to industrial occupations.* The monetary equivalent of a living wage varies according to local conditions, but *must include enough to secure the elements of a normal standard of living*--a standard high enough to make morality possible, to provide for education and recreation, to care for immature members of the family, to maintain the family during periods of sickness, and to permit a reasonable saving for old age.”

-Theodore Roosevelt

1912 Presidential Candidate Campaign Speech (Progressive Party)



The Minimum Salary You Need To Be Happy in Every State



49/51 California

Minimum salary needed to be happy: \$145,845

California's notoriously high cost of living is on display here, with just over \$145,000 a year being needed to secure happiness. While California's staggering 16.3% unemployment rate at the height of the pandemic has come down, 7.6% is still among the highest in the nation.

Image Credits: Sean Pavone / Getty Images/iStockphoto

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The Cost of (Being) California(n) Reports

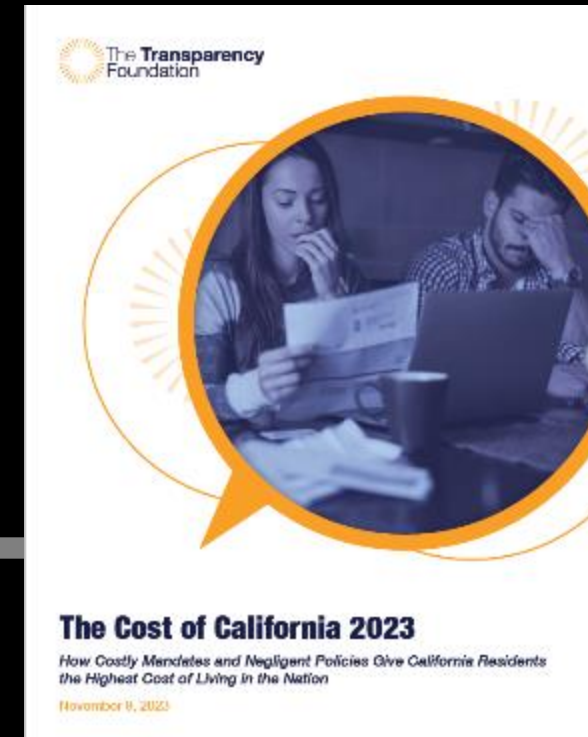


“Since 2018, the cost of living in southern and central portions of the state witnessed steep increases: Orange County (26%), Santa Barbara (40%), and Santa Cruz (45%).”

“Three years before the pandemic, the Insight Center’s 2018 Family Needs Calculator (FNC) determined that over one in three Californian households were not paid enough to meet their basic needs.”

“Middle Class” range in California

***LA/Long Beach/Anaheim:
\$55,000 - \$165,000 annual income
(16% - 17% higher than the nat’l. avg.)***



California's Cost-of-Living Crisis BY THE NUMBERS

\$26,478.72

The added financial burden in 2022 of living in California for a middle-class family earning \$130,000 a year as calculated by the California-to-national-averages methodology outlined in this report.

42%

The higher cost of living in California versus the national average in 2023 as reported by Council for Community and Economic Research.

57%

Percentage of Californians who say they are experiencing "financial hardship" because of rising prices.

\$232,000

Level of income that still puts you in the definition of "Middle Class" in the Bay Area.

67% of 40%

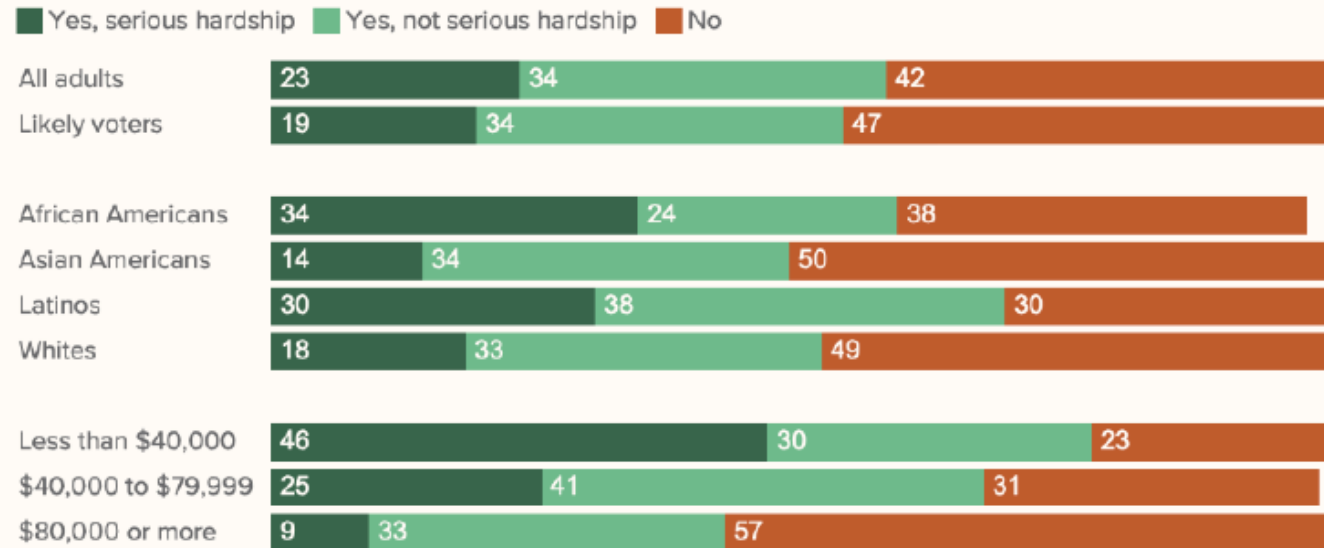
Percentage of Californians who say they are considering moving from the state is at 40% with 67% of them saying it is because of the high cost of living.



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Many across the state have experienced financial hardships due to rising prices



SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, June 2023. Survey was fielded from May 17–24, 2023 (n=1,576 adults, n=1,062 likely voters).

Figure 1: 2023 PPIC Survey -

<https://www.ppic.org/publication/ppic-statewide-survey-californians-and-their-government-june-2023/>

Self-Sufficiency Standard/Family Needs Calculator

The University of Washington's School of Social Work Center for Women's Welfare [Self-Sufficiency Standard](#) defines the income working families need to meet a minimum yet adequate level, taking into account family composition, ages of children, and geographic differences in costs*. The Standard is an affordability and living wage economic security measure that provides an alternative to the official poverty measure.

**See the "[Technical Brief](#)" for specific data elements and sources*

Launched in 1996 the [Insight Center's Family Needs Calculator](#) measures the floor income necessary for an individual (under age 65 and without disability) or family to afford basic expenses in California. Covering all 58 counties, the data assesses the cost of housing, food, child care, health care, transportation, and taxes—without accounting for public or private assistance.

MIT Living Wage Calculator

“The living wage shown is the hourly rate that an **individual** in a household must earn to support his or herself and their family. The assumption is the sole provider is working full-time (2080 hours per year). The tool provides information for individuals, and households with one or two working adults and zero to three children. In the case of households with two working adults, all values are **per working adult, single or in a family** unless otherwise noted.”

-MIT Living Wage Calculation for Orange County, CA

Monthly Costs in Orange County, CA 2021

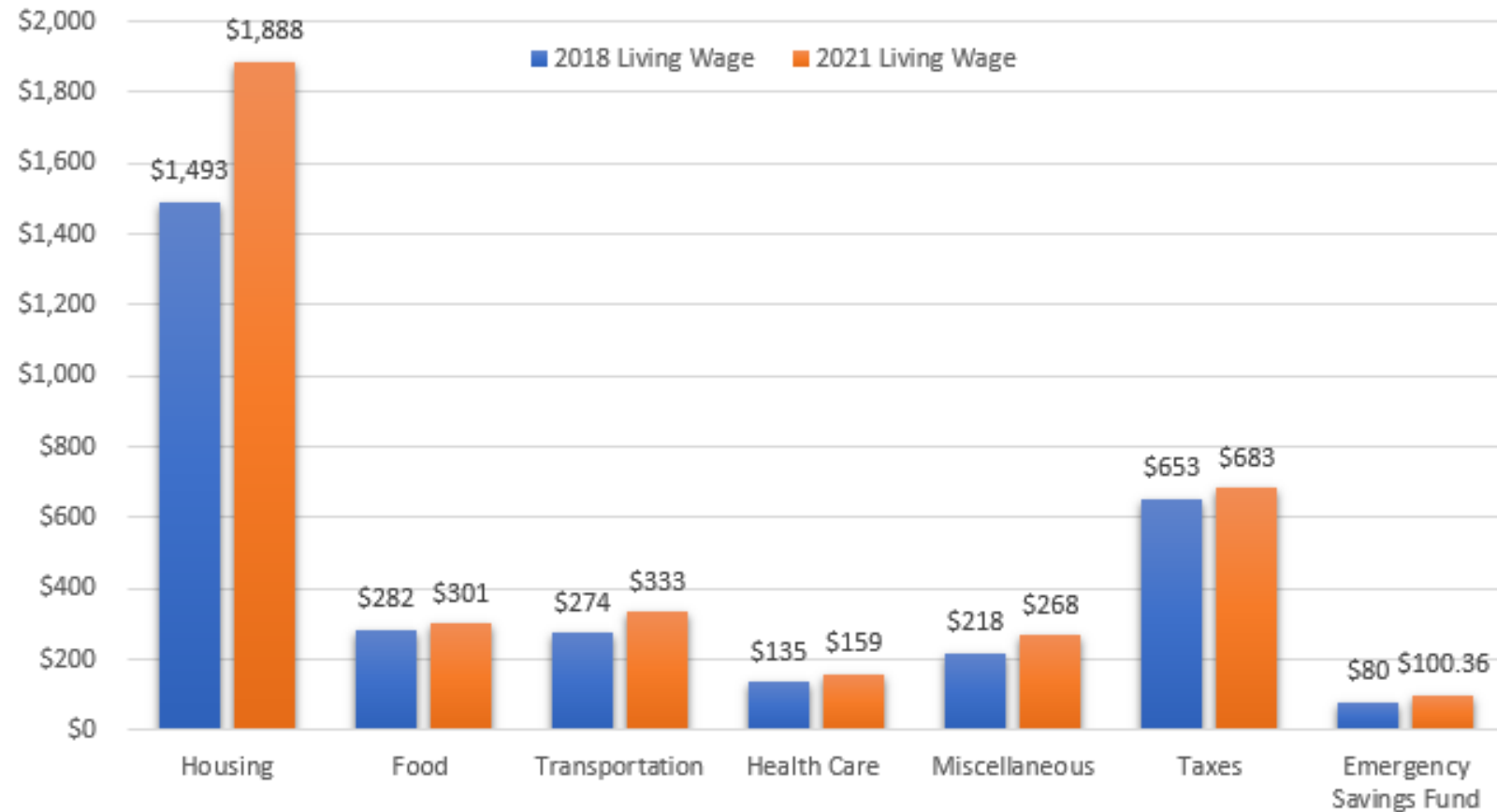
Rent	\$1,808
Utilities	\$80
Child Care	\$0
Health Care	\$159
Food	\$301
Transportation	\$333
Miscellaneous	\$268
Taxes	\$683
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	\$0
Child Tax Credit (-)	\$0
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	\$0
SELF-SUFFICIENCY STANDARD	
Hourly Wage (per adult)	\$20.63
Monthly Wage	\$3,632
Annual Wage	\$43,579
Emergency Savings (Monthly)	\$100



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OC Insight Living Wage: 2018 vs. 2021*



	1 ADULT				2 ADULTS (1 WORKING)		
	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children
Living Wage	\$23.66	\$47.25	\$61.44	\$83.84	\$34.67	\$42.79	\$47.78
Poverty Wage	\$6.53	\$8.80	\$11.07	\$13.34	\$8.80	\$11.07	\$13.34
Minimum Wage	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50



Cost of Living Across SoCal



WHY IS IT SO
EXPENSIVE

Insight vs. MIT Living Wages Across Southern California
(sorted by Insight lowest to highest)

Years/Job Type	Imperial	Riverside and San Bernardino	Ventura	Los Angeles	San Diego	Orange
Insight Living Wage	\$11.46	\$13.93	\$17.58	\$18.10	\$18.43	\$20.63
MIT Living Wage	\$16.32	\$18.66	22.12*	21.22*	\$22.61	\$23.66



Cost of Living in Orange County, California

▲ 51%

higher than national avg.

▲ 157%

HOUSING

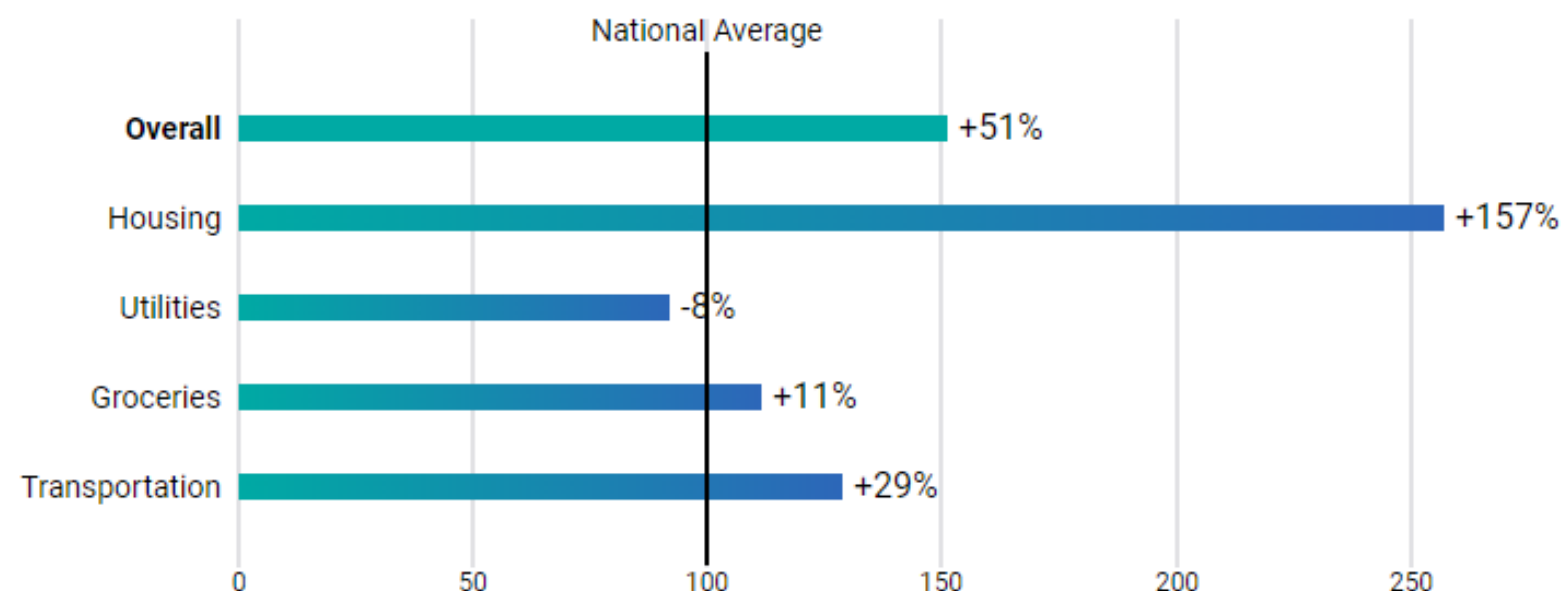
▼ 8%

UTILITIES

▲ 11%

GROCERIES

Cost of Living in Orange County, California by Expense Category



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Examples of the Costs of Living in OC

Housing, Utilities & Transportation

Orange County's housing expenses are 157% higher than the national average and the utility prices are 8% lower than the national average. Transportation expenses like bus fares and gas prices are 29% higher than the national average.



MEDIAN HOME PRICE

\$1,158,846



MEDIAN RENT

\$3,523 / month



ENERGY BILL

\$162.32 / month



PHONE BILL

\$174.62 / month



GAS

\$4.38 / gallon

Food & Grocery

Orange County has grocery prices that are 11% higher than the national average.



LOAF OF BREAD

\$4.32



GALLON OF MILK

\$2.71



CARTON OF EGGS

\$2.51



BUNCH OF BANANAS

\$3.74



HAMBURGER

\$5.71

Healthcare

Healthcare in Orange County is 1% lower than the national average.



DOCTOR'S VISIT

\$123.54



DENTIST VISIT

\$106.58



OPTOMETRIST VISIT

\$116.37



RX DRUG

\$455.17



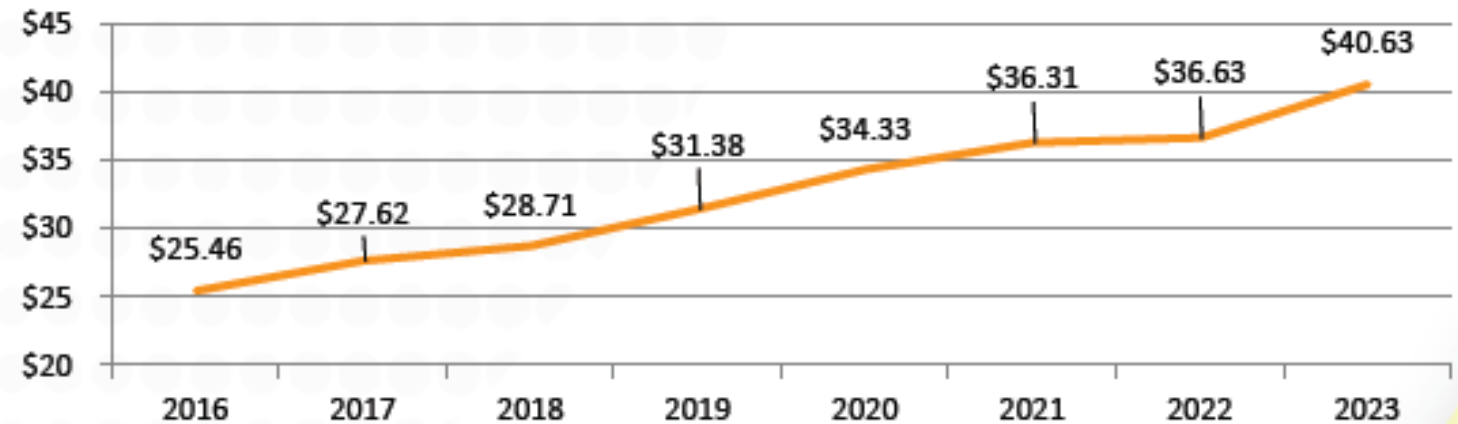
VETERINARY VISIT

\$66.50

The hourly wage needed to afford a 1-bedroom apartment in OC increased from \$36.63/hr (\$76,190/yr) in 2022 to \$40.63/hr (\$84,510/yr) in 2023, a significant increase of 10.9%

REQUIRED WAGE FOR ONE-BEDROOM SURPASSES \$40 PER HOUR

HOURLY WAGE NEEDED TO AFFORD A ONE-BEDROOM UNIT IN ORANGE COUNTY, 2016-2023



Sources: Community Indicators Report analysis of Fair Market Rent data from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development using the methodology of the National Low Income Housing Coalition



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1st Time Homebuyers need a *minimum* qualifying income of \$192,600 for an 'entry-level' home (\$1,016,190) as of Q1 '23

\$35,100 *MORE* than in Q1 '22



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Labor Market Analysis Briefs (LMAs) *(click on pic to go to report)*

Labor Market Analysis for Program Exploration:
1005.00/Commercial Music
(Audio Recording Commercial Music)
Orange County Center of Excellence, January 2024



Summary

Program LMI Endorsement	Endorsed: All LMI Criteria Met <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Endorsed: Some LMI Criteria Met <input type="checkbox"/>	Not LMI Endorsed <input type="checkbox"/>
Program LMI Endorsement Criteria			
	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Supply Gap:	Comments: There is projected to be 1,317 annual job openings throughout Los Angeles and Orange counties for these middle-skill audio and video occupations, which is more than the 983 awards conferred by educational institutions.		
	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Living Wage: (Entry-Level, 25%)	Comments: The majority (65%) of annual job openings for these middle-skill audio and video occupations have entry-level hourly wages above the OC living wage of \$20.63.		
	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Education:	Comments: The typical entry-level education for these audio and video occupations is a postsecondary nondegree award. Additionally, more than one-third (38%) of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree as their highest level of education.		
	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Emerging Occupation(s)			
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Comments: N/A			

The Orange County Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (OC COE) prepared this report to determine whether there is a supply gap in the Los Angeles/Orange County regional labor market related to the following two audio and video occupations:

- Audio and Video Technicians (27-4011)
- Sound Engineering Technicians (27-4014)

Middle-skill occupations typically require a community college education while above middle-skill occupations typically require at least a bachelor's degree.

Based on the available data, there appears to be a supply gap for these middle-skill audio and video occupations in the region. Additionally, the majority of annual openings have entry-level wages above the living wage and the typical entry-level education for both occupations is a postsecondary nondegree award. Therefore, due to all of the regional labor market criteria being met, the COE endorses this proposed program.

Exhibit 1 lists the occupational demand, supply, typical entry-level education, and educational attainment for the two audio and video occupations included in this report.

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Labor Market Analysis for Noncredit Program Recommendation:
1221.00/Pharmacy Technician
(Pharmacy Technician - Entry Level - Certificate of Completion)
Orange County Center of Excellence, August 2023



Summary

Program LMI Endorsement	Endorsed: All LMI Criteria Met <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Endorsed: Some LMI Criteria Met <input type="checkbox"/>	Not LMI Endorsed <input type="checkbox"/>
Program LMI Endorsement Criteria			
	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Supply Gap:	Comments: there is projected to be 2,201 annual job openings throughout Los Angeles and Orange counties for these pharmacy technician occupations, which is more than the 673 awards conferred by educational institutions.		
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Living Wage: (Entry-Level, 25%)	Comments: All annual job openings for these pharmacy technician occupations have entry-level hourly wages below the OC living wage of \$20.63.		
	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Education:	Comments: The typical entry-level education for these pharmacy technician occupations is a high school diploma or equivalent. However, more than one-third of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree as their highest level of education.		
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Emerging Occupation(s)			
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Comments: N/A			

The Orange County Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (OC COE) prepared this report to determine whether there is a supply gap in the Los Angeles/Orange County regional labor market related to two middle-skill occupations:

- Pharmacy Technicians (29-2052)
- Pharmacy Aides (31-9095)

Based on the available data there appears to be a supply gap for these pharmacy technician occupations, and typical education requirements align with a community college education. However, typical entry-level hourly wages are below the living wage. Therefore, due to some of the regional labor market criteria being met, the COE endorses this proposed program.

Exhibit 1 lists the occupational demand, supply, typical entry-level education, and educational attainment for the occupations included in this report.

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Labor Market Analysis for Program Recommendation:
0707.10/Computer Programming
(C++ Programming Certificate of Achievement)
(Java Programming Certificate of Achievement)
(Python Programming Certificate of Achievement)
Orange County Center of Excellence, October 2023



Summary

Program LMI Endorsement	Endorsed: All LMI Criteria Met <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Endorsed: Some LMI Criteria Met <input type="checkbox"/>	Not LMI Endorsed <input type="checkbox"/>
Program LMI Endorsement Criteria			
	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Supply Gap:	Comments: There is projected to be 806 middle-skill annual job openings throughout Los Angeles and Orange counties for these occupations, which is more than the 99 awards conferred by educational institutions.		
	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Living Wage: (Entry-Level, 25%)	Comments: Typical entry-level wages for web and digital interface designers are \$25.00, which is above the OC living wage of \$20.63.		
	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Education:	Comments: the typical entry-level education for web and digital interface designers is a bachelor's degree. However, a significant percentage of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree as their highest level of education.		
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Emerging Occupation(s)			
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Comments: N/A			

The Orange County Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (OC COE) prepared this report to determine whether there is a supply gap in the Los Angeles/Orange County regional labor market related to four occupations that are most closely related to computer programming:

- Middle-Skill
 - Web and Digital Interface Designers (15-1253)
- Above Middle-Skill – denoted with an asterisk (*) throughout this report.
 - Computer Programmers (15-1251)*
 - Software Developers (15-1252)*
 - Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers (15-1253)*

Middle-skill occupations typically require a community college education while above middle-skill occupations typically require at least a bachelor's degree. Currently, these Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) codes are those that are most closely related to computer programming, which utilizes programming languages such as Java, Python, and C++ to create code and scripts that allow computer and software applications to run.

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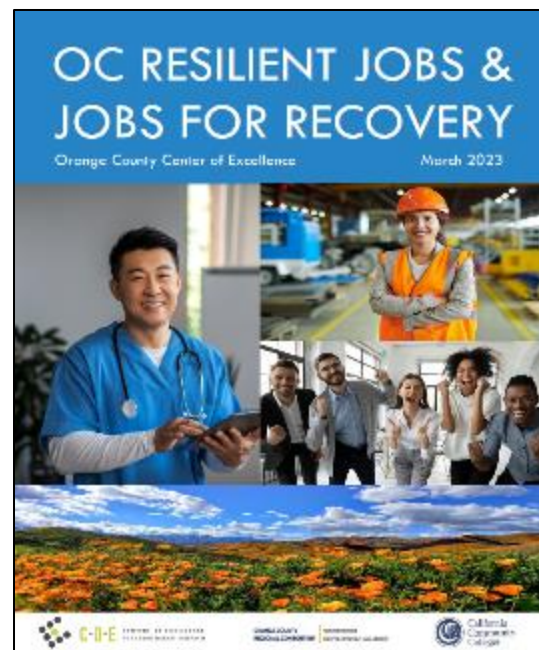
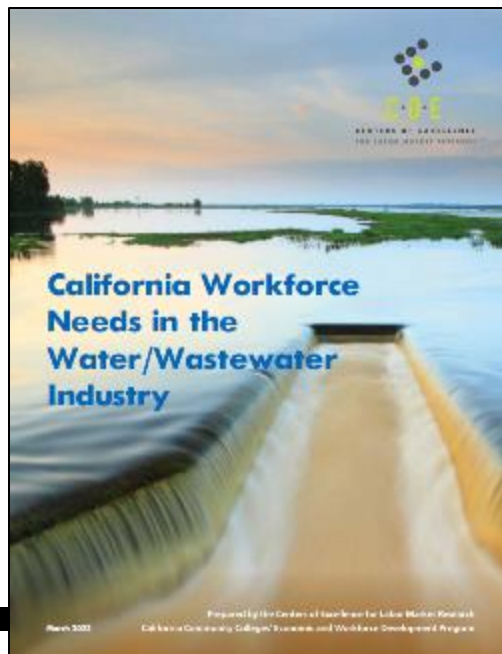


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FUTURE | BUILT

Recent'ish OC COE Reports *(click on pic to go to report)*



Orange County Labor Market Overview

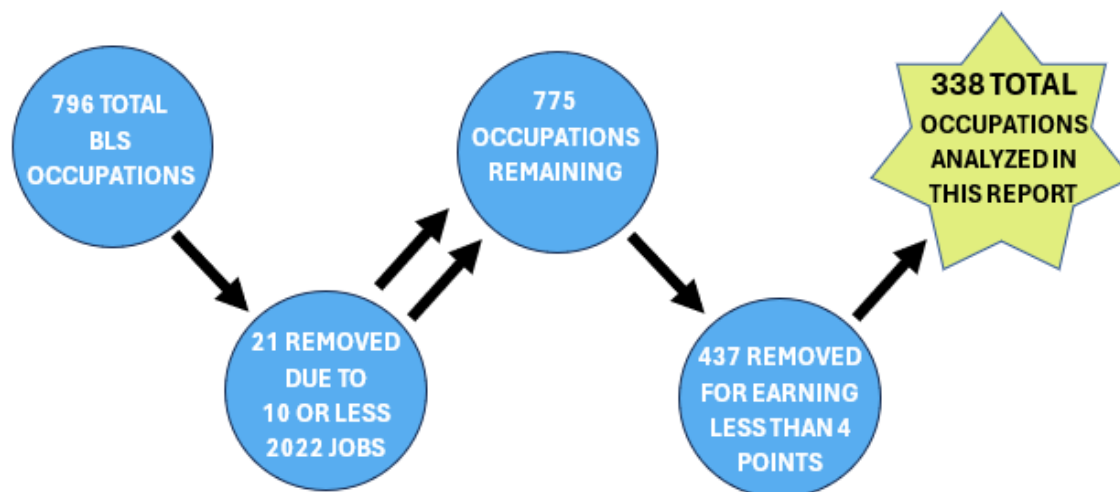


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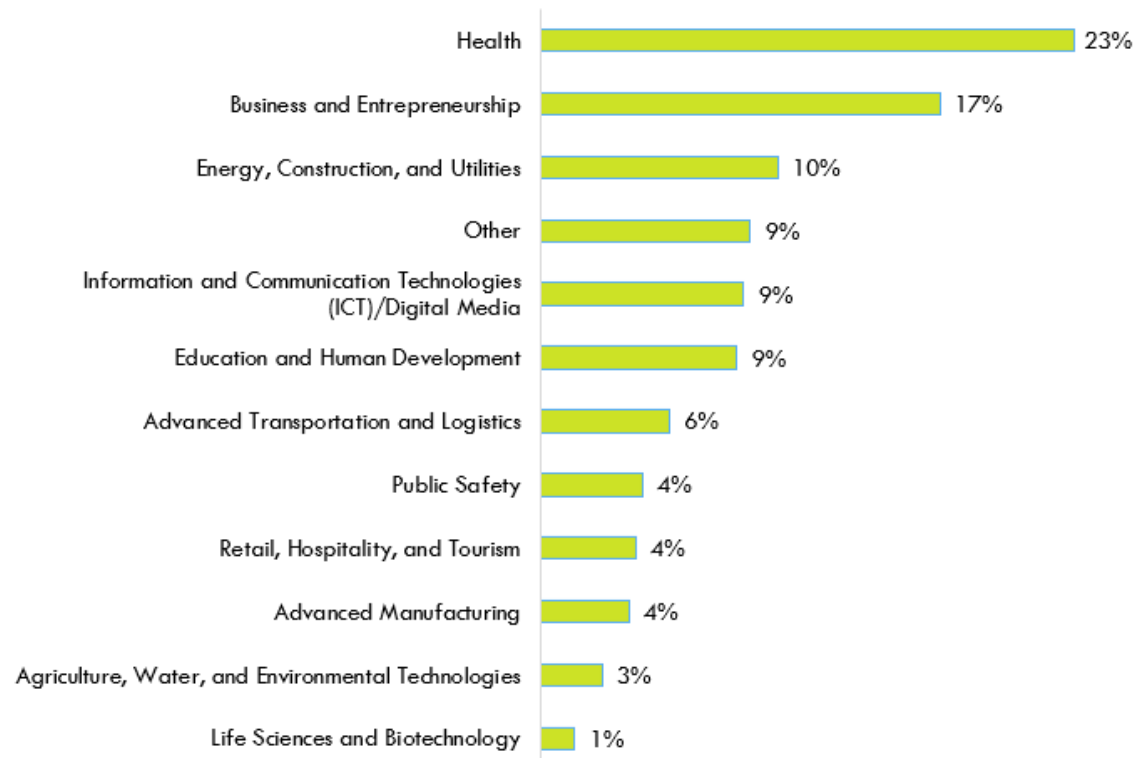
Criteria Used to Evaluate Occupations



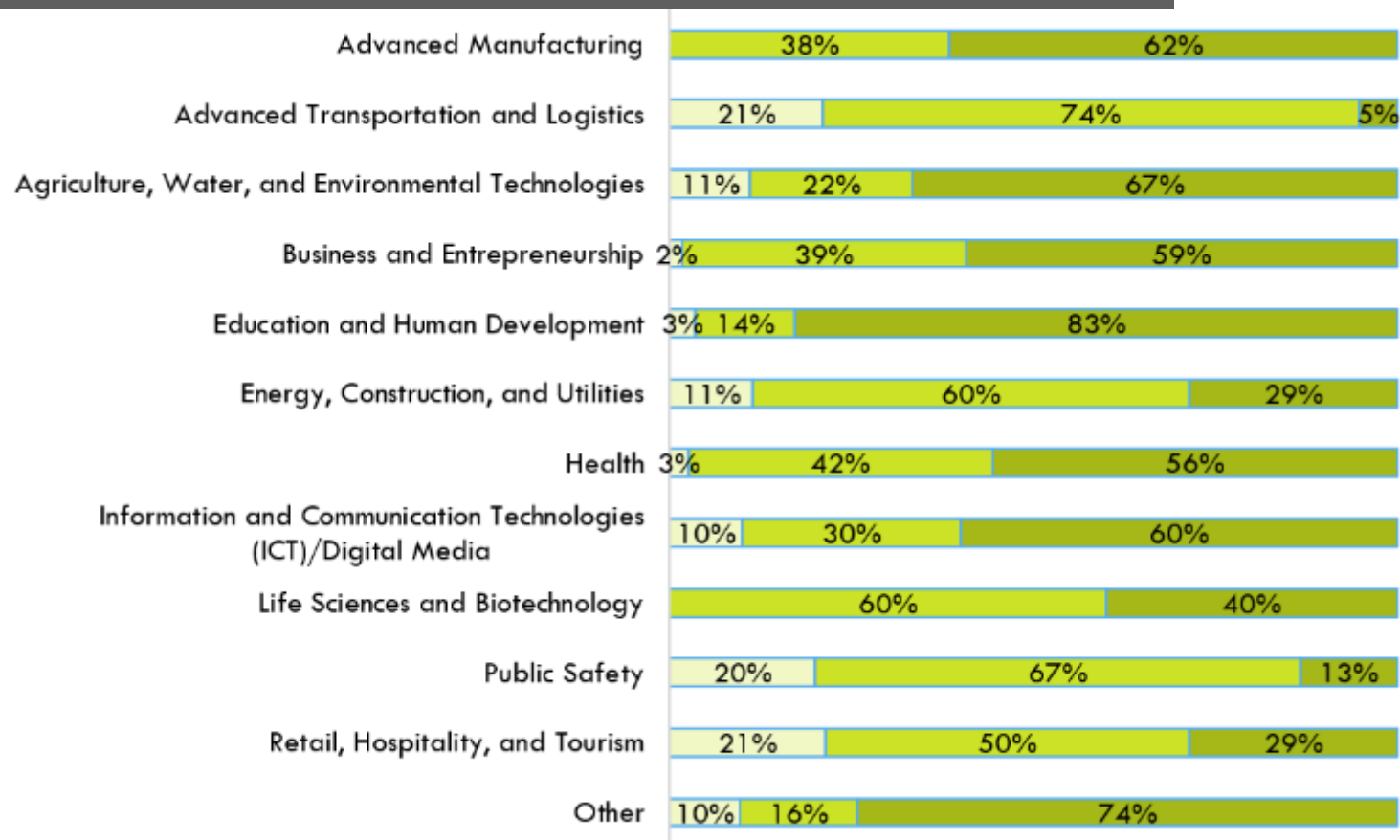
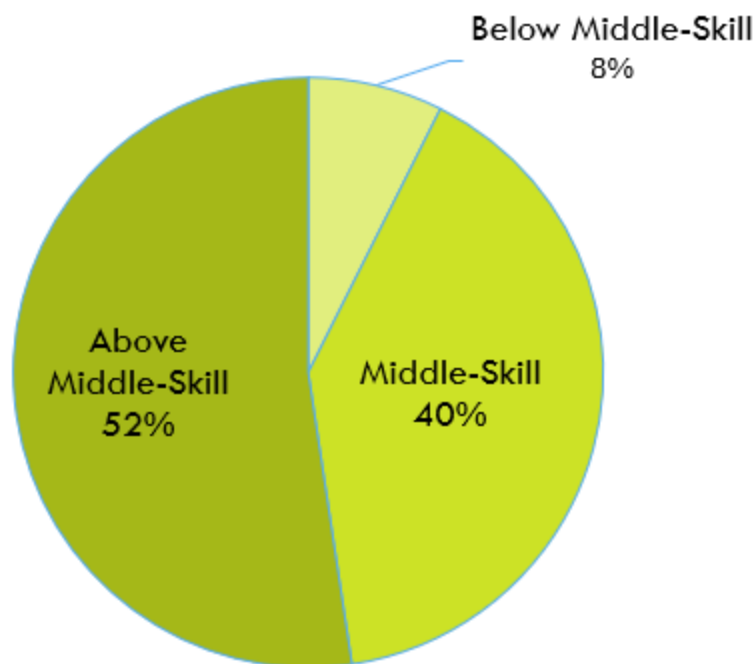
2022 Jobs (Median)	2022 - 2027 % Change	Avg. Annual Openings	Living Wage (Insight)	Living Wage (MIT)	Great Recession, COVID-19 Pandemic, or Overall Resilient	U.S. News & World Report 2023 Best Job	Lightcast's Automation Index
579	6.62%	63.5	\$20.63	\$23.66	Yes	Yes	100

Occupations by Sector

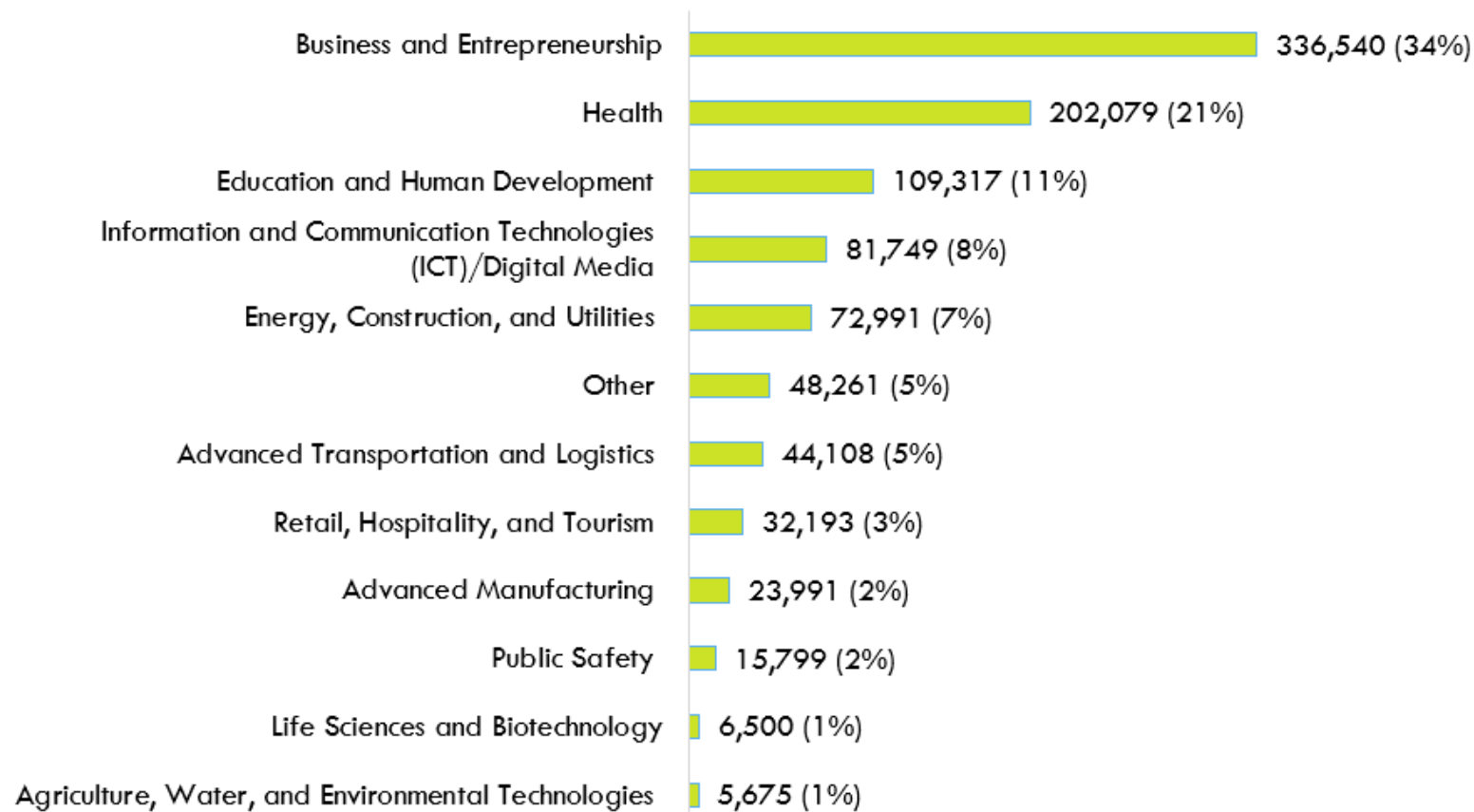
Sector	Total # of BLS Occupations	Total # of Occupations in the Report	% of Total BLS Occupations
Advanced Manufacturing	103	13	13%
Advanced Transportation and Logistics	61	19	31%
Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies	38	9	24%
Business and Entrepreneurship	101	59	58%
Education and Human Development	34	29	85%
Energy, Construction, and Utilities	104	35	34%
Health	99	79	80%
Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)/Digital Media	49	30	61%
Life Sciences and Biotechnology	8	5	63%
Other	100	31	31%
Public Safety	28	15	54%
Retail, Hospitality, and Tourism	50	14	28%
Grand Total	775	338	44%



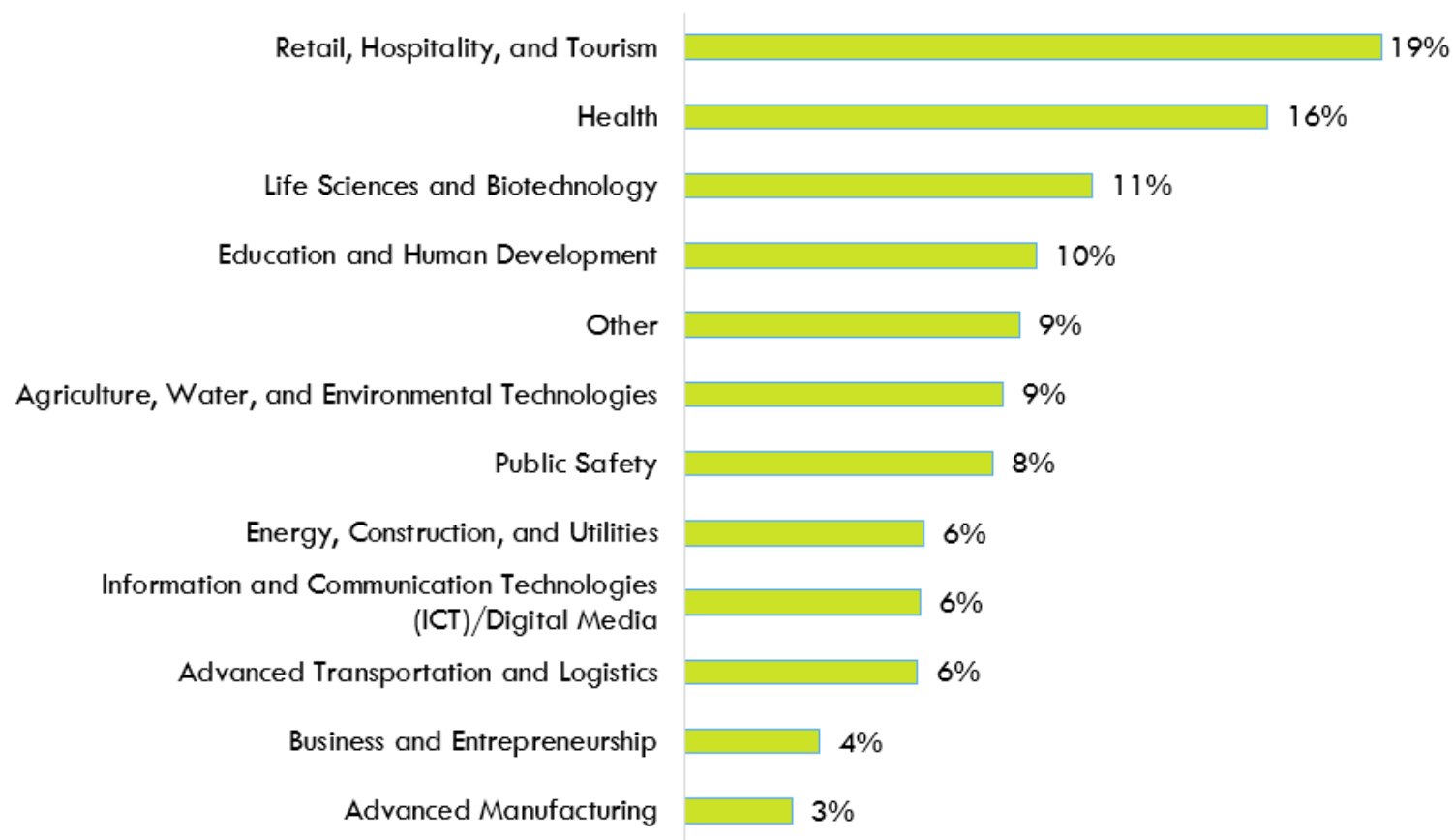
Occupational Skill-Level



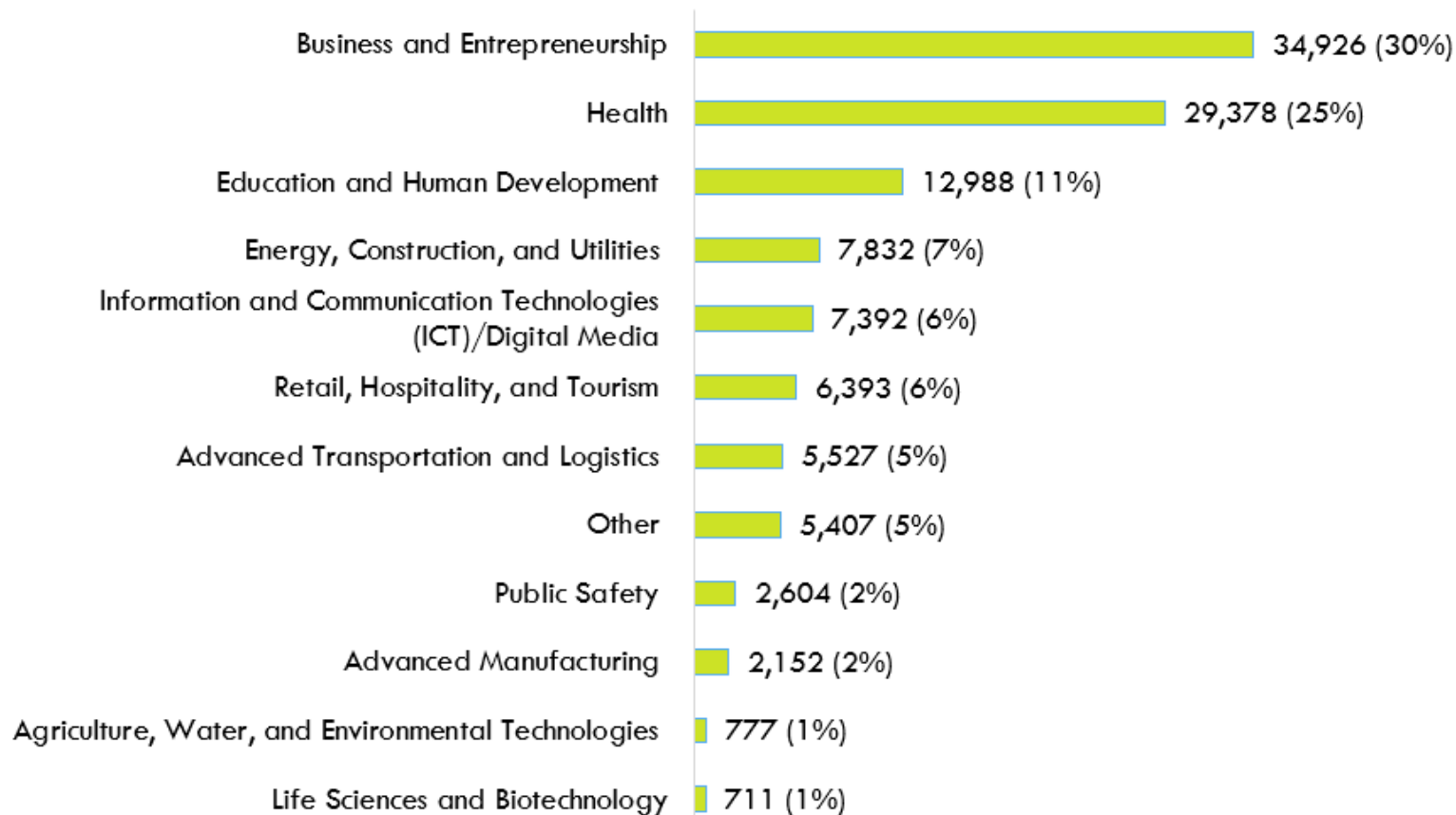
Number of Jobs in 2022 by Sector



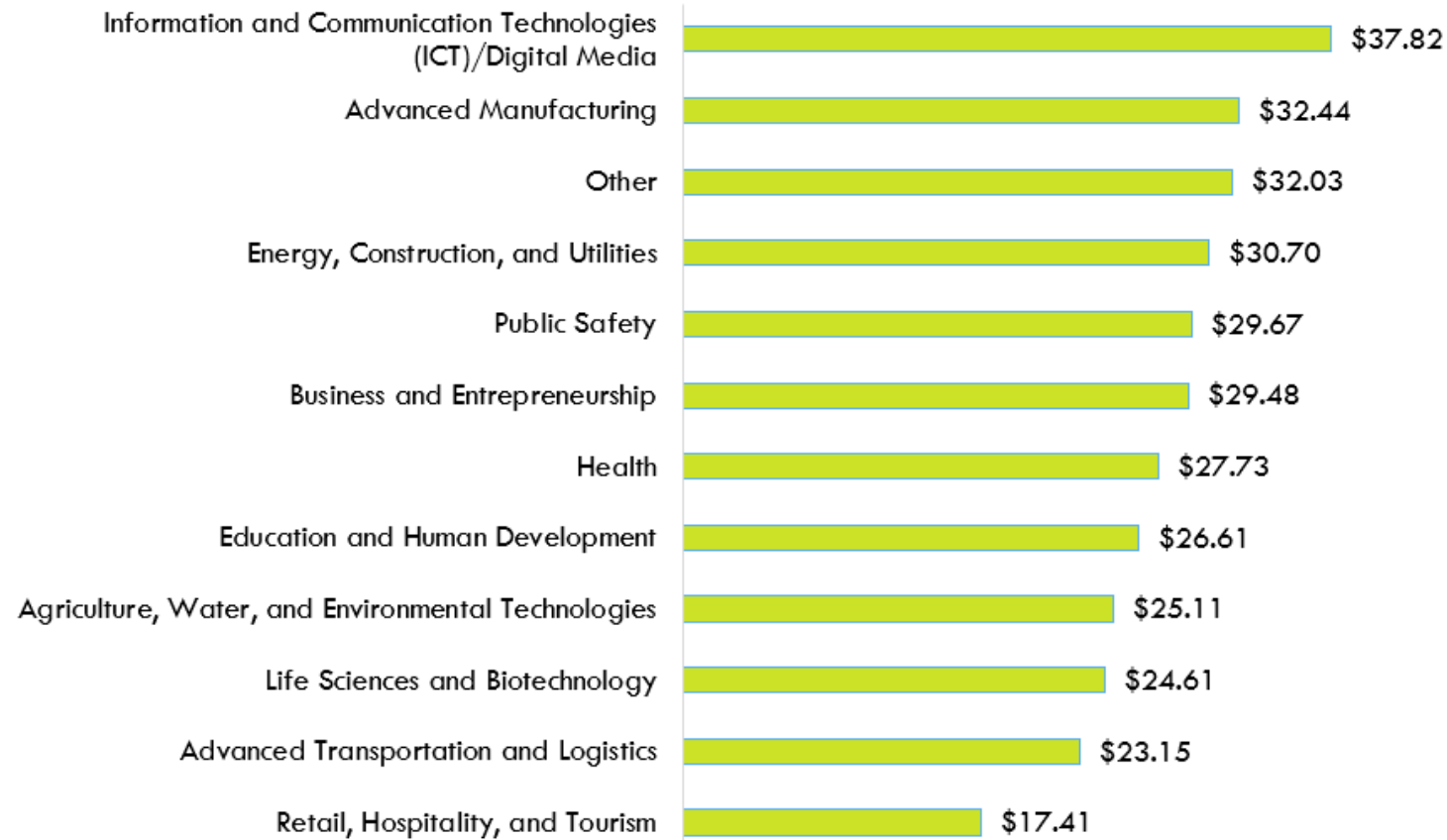
Projected 5-Year Percent Change by Sector



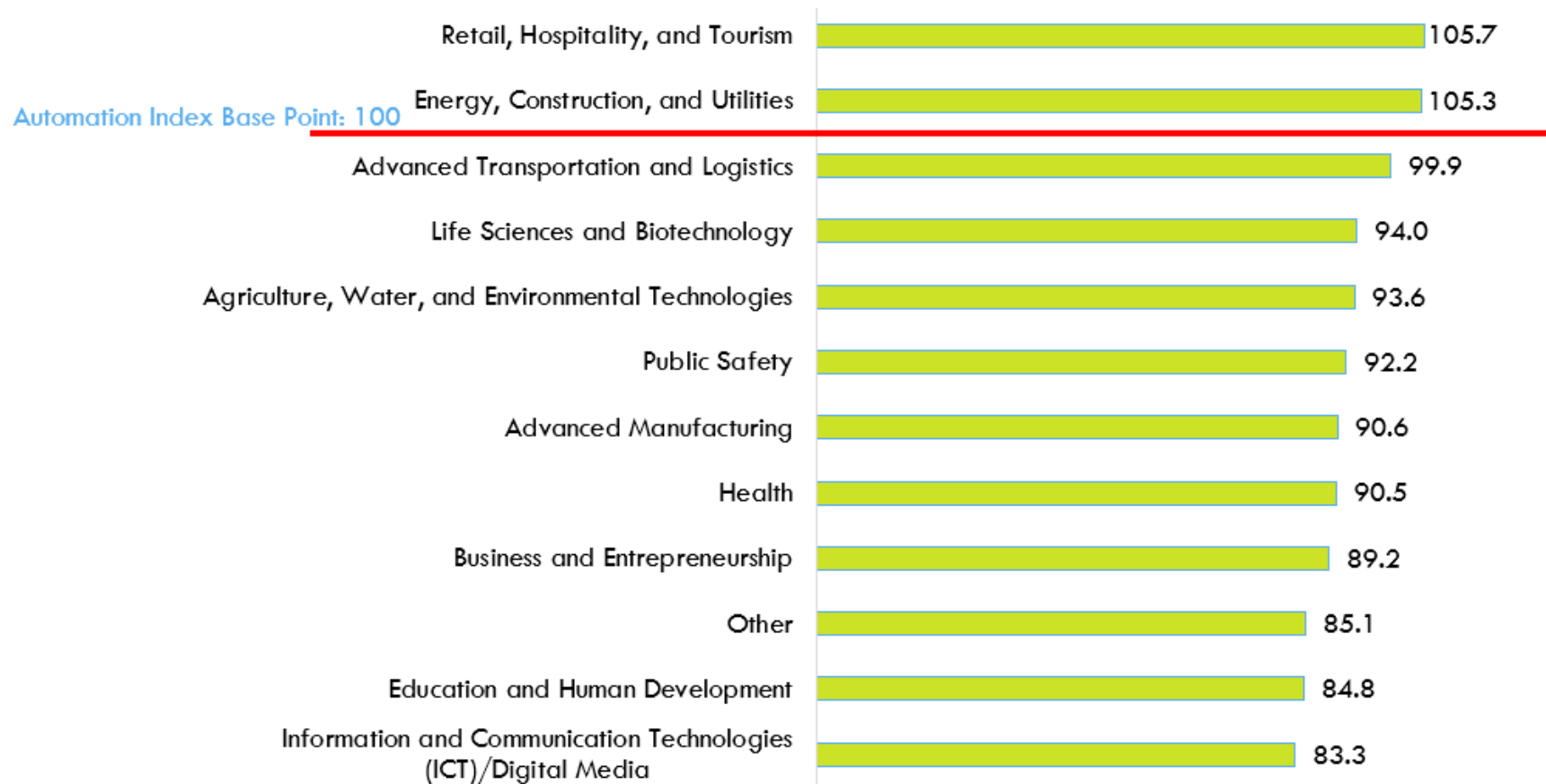
Annual Openings by Sector



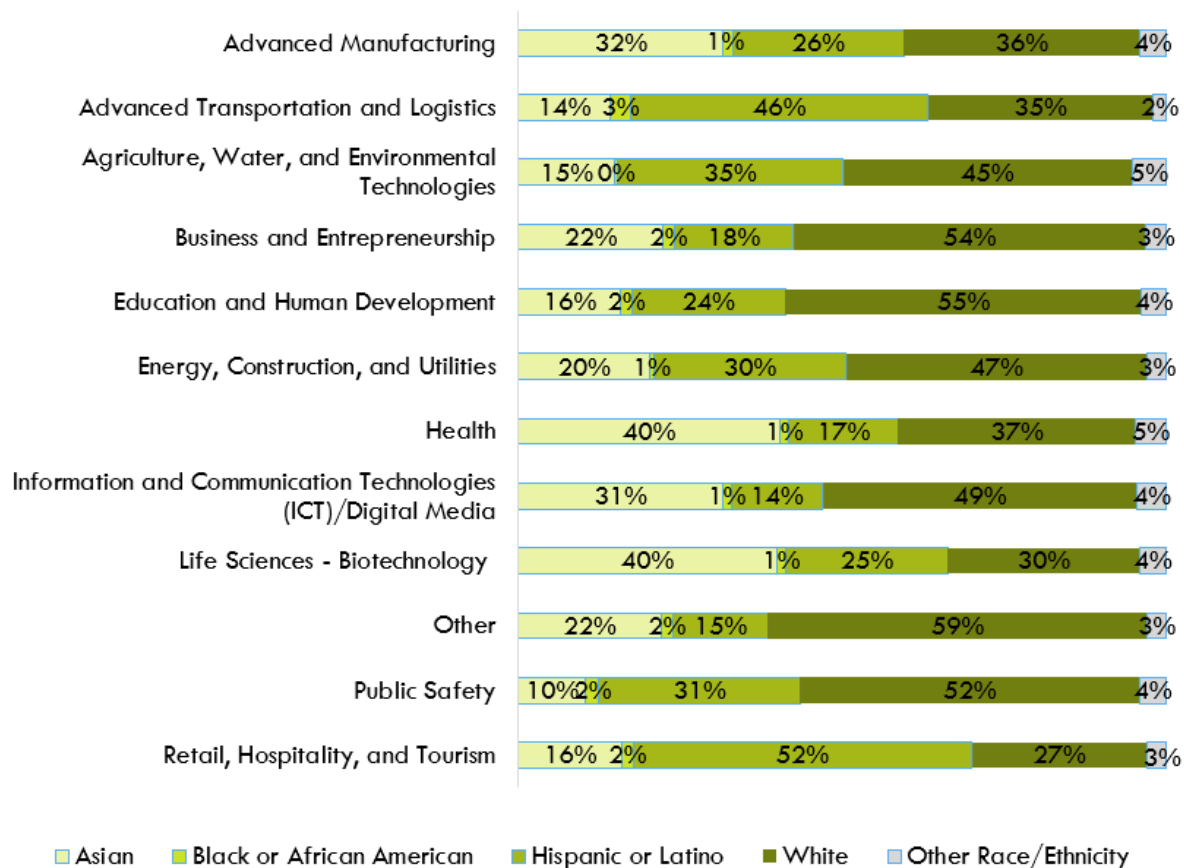
Entry-Level Wages (25th Percentile) Weighted via Jobs by Sector



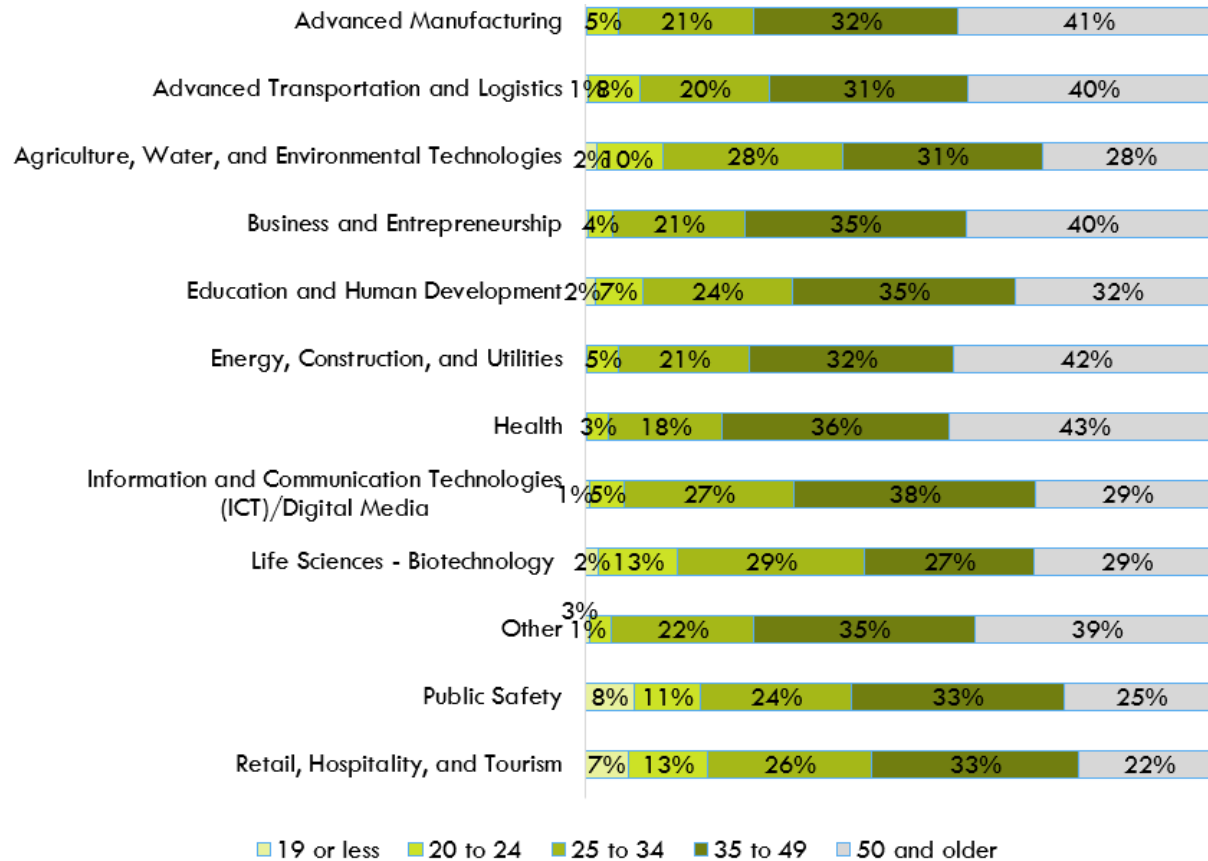
Automation Index by Sector



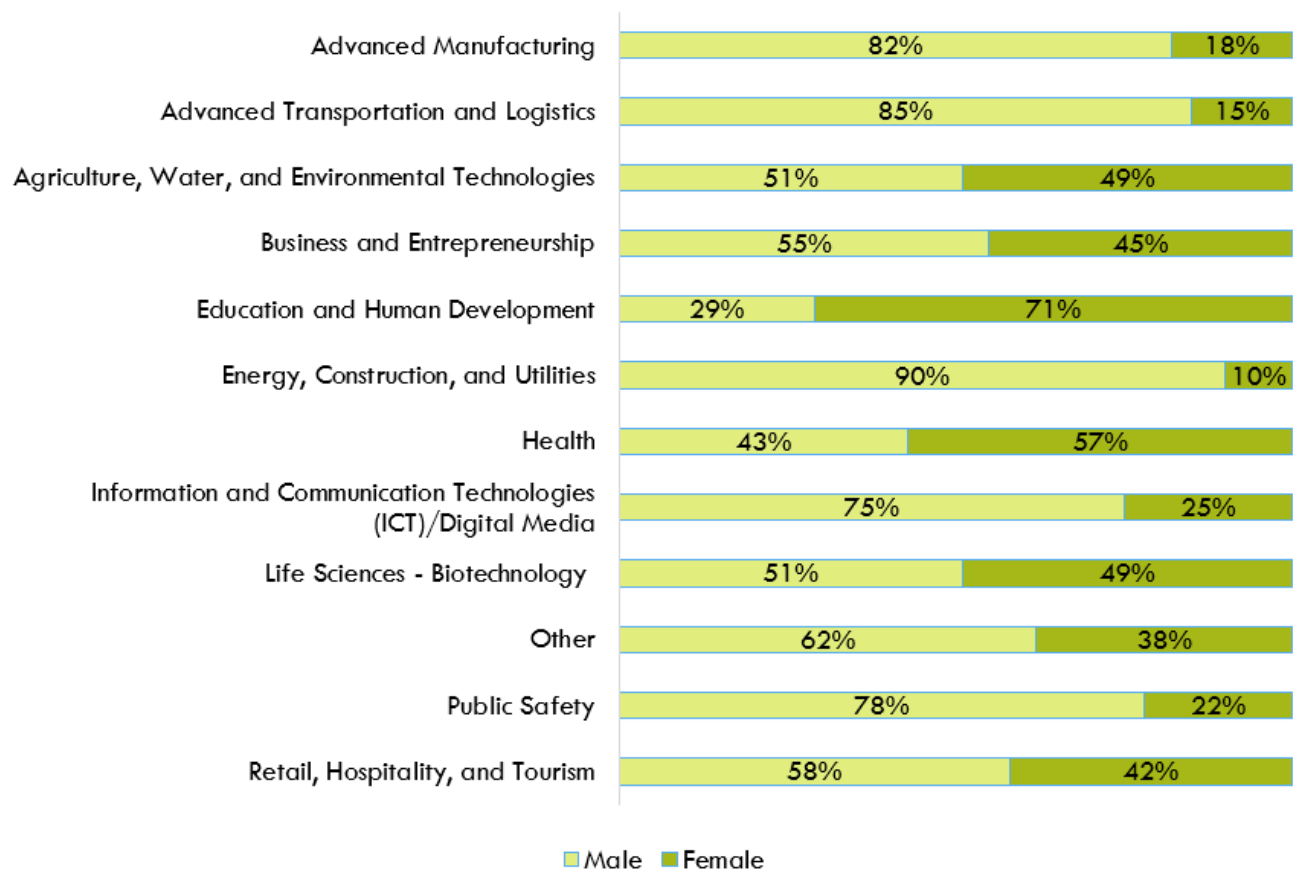
Ethnicity by Sector



Age by Sector



Sex by Sector



Best-of-the-Best

There were 26 occupations that received the top score of 8 out of 8 points by meeting all criteria analyzed in this report.

These 26 “Best-of-the-Best” occupations...

- ...only represent 3% of the total number of occupations in the SOC system but accounted for 15% of all jobs in Orange County in 2022;
- ...are projected to comprise 6% of all annual job openings through 2027;
- ...are projected to grow 10% through 2027, which is higher than the projected 6.62% increase across all occupations.

Best-of-the-Best (cont.)

Of the 12 sectors analyzed in this report...

- ...7 have occupations that qualify for the Best-of-the-Best occupations;
- ...the **Health** sector leads with 13, half, of the 26 occupations, followed by **Business & Entrepreneurship** with 5 occupations;
- ...3 sectors include the 6 middle-skill Best-of-the-Best occupations: **Health** (4), **Advanced Transportation & Logistics** (1), and **Business & Entrepreneurship** (1).

Best-of-the-Best (cont.)

Breaking down the data for the Best-of-the-Best Occupations:

- 77% (20) of these Best-of-the-Best occupations are considered above middle-skill, 23% (6) are considered middle-skill, and none are below middle-skill.
- 2 middle-skill occupations have the highest number of annual job openings: *General and Operations Managers* (2,957) and *Registered Nurses* (1,996).
- *General and Operations Managers* has the highest number of annual job openings (2,957) but the lowest projected change in jobs (7%).
- Employment for *Nurse Practitioners* is projected to grow the most (32%); this occupation also has the second highest entry-level wage (\$58.95).
- *Medical and Health Services Managers* has the lowest risk of automation, with a Lightcast Automation Index of 75.2.

SOC	Occupation	Skill Level	2022 Jobs	5-Year % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Wage	Automation Index	Sector
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	Middle-Skill	28,261	7%	2,957	\$37.02	82.2	Business & Entrepreneurship
29-1141	Registered Nurses	Middle-Skill	25,617	9%	1,996	\$48.32	85.3	Health
13-1161	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	Above Middle-Skill	12,149	10%	1,476	\$26.39	88.6	Business & Entrepreneurship
11-3031	Financial Managers	Above Middle-Skill	11,599	7%	1,055	\$53.14	85.8	Business & Entrepreneurship
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	Above Middle-Skill	11,508	8%	1,034	\$31.74	82.3	Education & Human Development
23-1011	Lawyers	Above Middle-Skill	12,715	9%	855	\$48.58	81.1	Other
11-9021	Construction Managers	Above Middle-Skill	6,302	8%	601	\$35.84	88.6	Energy, Construction & Utilities
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	Above Middle-Skill	4,314	21%	553	\$40.87	75.2	Health



SOC	Occupation	Skill Level	2022 Jobs	5-Year % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Wage	Automation Index	Sector
21-1012	Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors	Above Middle-Skill	3,445	7%	342	\$26.44	80	Education & Human Development
13-1081	Logisticians	Middle-Skill	2,617	14%	316	\$30.26	82.1	Advanced Transportation & Logistics
25-2022	Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	Above Middle-Skill	3,376	9%	311	\$36.31	84.5	Education & Human Development
29-1292	Dental Hygienists	Middle-Skill	3,126	13%	296	\$51.60	96.8	Health
11-9151	Social and Community Service Managers	Above Middle-Skill	2,240	14%	269	\$27.08	85.7	Business & Entrepreneurship
15-2051	Data Scientists	Above Middle-Skill	2,151	16%	233	\$34.97	83.4	Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)/Digital Media
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	Above Middle-Skill	1,696	32%	207	\$58.95	83.2	Health
29-1123	Physical Therapists	Above Middle-Skill	2,741	14%	207	\$45.50	85.5	Health
31-2021	Physical Therapist Assistants	Middle-Skill	932	22%	185	\$32.65	88.1	Health



SOC	Occupation	Skill Level	2022 Jobs	5-Year % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Wage	Automation Index	Sector
29-1127	Speech-Language Pathologists	Above Middle-Skill	1,659	18%	167	\$39.16	87.5	Health
29-1071	Physician Assistants	Above Middle-Skill	1,502	19%	149	\$59.36	87.8	Health
29-1021	Dentists, General	Above Middle-Skill	3,058	8%	142	\$29.77	87.9	Health
15-1212	Information Security Analysts	Above Middle-Skill	1,181	17%	133	\$45.67	86.4	Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)/Digital Media
29-1122	Occupational Therapists	Above Middle-Skill	1,511	13%	132	\$46.37	87.3	Health
15-2031	Operations Research Analysts	Above Middle-Skill	894	12%	87	\$31.09	91.2	Business & Entrepreneurship
19-3033	Clinical and Counseling Psychologists	Above Middle-Skill	774	21%	87	\$38.24	85.4	Health
29-1041	Optometrists	Above Middle-Skill	1,336	15%	81	\$35.36	83.2	Health
29-2032	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	Middle-Skill	822	17%	76	\$45.46	93.3	Health



COE Website & Tools

The leading source of labor market research for the California Community Colleges

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RESOURCES

Tools for labor market research and decision-making

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LMI References



[O*NET Occupation Search](#)



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